

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-14, 16-18, 20-31 and 35 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 1 is amended for clarification purposes based on the results of the May 18 personal interview. Reconsideration in view of the above amendment and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Upon further review of the April 9, 2004 Amendment, it was discovered that the listing of the claims did not include status identifiers for canceled claims 3, 15 and 19. Thus, in this Supplemental Amendment, Applicants include status identifiers for canceled claims 3, 15 and 19.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representative by Examiner Yamnitzky in the May 18 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks. Specifically, claim 1 is amended to comply with the Examiner's helpful suggestions made during the interview.

During the April 9, 2004 personal interview, Examiner Yamnitzky proposed an additional claim amendment to claim 1 for clarification purposes and so that the recitation of claim 1 better corresponds to method claims 18 and 20-31. The proposed claim amendment is incorporated into this Supplemental Amendment. The Examiner also indicated that claims 18 and 20-31 will be rejoined with the elected claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 2, 4-14, 16-18 and 20-31 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

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JAO:RSE/dap

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